

Designing and renovating a Norfolk house

How To Use the Norfolk Pattern Book

The following step-by-step procedure describes how to use the Pattern Book for homeowners who are interested in renovating or adding on to their house and for individuals who are interested in constructing a new house.

STEP 1: Identify Your Neighborhood

Whether you own an existing house or are building a new house, refer to the Neighborhood Patterns section of the Pattern Book (pages B-4 through B-13) and review the three eras of neighborhood building described.

If you already own a house, select the era which your neighborhood most closely resembles. Read about the individual components—such as the typical front yard depth, streetscape character, house spacing, landscape treatments (both public and private)—that define your neighborhood.

If you are searching for a lot on which to build your new house, the Pattern Book can also be helpful. The Neighborhood Patterns section provides an overview of the unique characteristics of each era of neighborhood building and a listing of many Norfolk neighborhoods that fall within each era. This introduction can direct you to the neighborhoods that have characteristics that interest you.

If you are building a new house, refer to Step 4. Otherwise, continue to Step 2.

STEP 2: Identify the Architectural Style of Your House

Once you've familiarized yourself with the era of your neighborhood, identify the architectural style that most closely resembles your house.

The Overview in the beginning of the Architectural Patterns section (pages C-14 and C-15) describes in visual form the predominant architectural styles found in Norfolk. The Table of Roof Pitches on page C-18 in the Renovations section might also be helpful in identifying the style of your house.

If your house does not have an identifiable style or is a mix of two styles, select one for it that would work best with its massing and height.

STEP 3: For Additions & Renovations

For information on appropriate means of modifying your house (whether historic or post-war) refer to the Renovations section (pages C-18 and C-19) and the Additions section (pages C-20 through C-22). These sections describe strategies for adding on extra rooms or garages as well as changing or replacing exterior components such as windows, doors and materials. The Transformations section (pages C-23 through C-25) explains how to achieve an architectural style for your house through both renovations and additions.

STEP 4: For New Construction

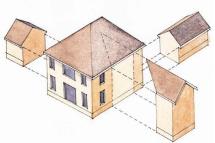
If you are planning on constructing a new house, refer to the Building a Norfolk House section (pages C-16 and C-17) which outlines the step-by-step process of composing a Norfolk House and relates the individual elements, such as windows, doors and porches, to the architectural styles (described in Step 5).

For ways of placing your house on a lot, refer to the typical house lot drawing which is shown for each era of neighborhood in the Neighborhood Patterns section. The diagram describes the typical "zones" of a house lot, such as front yard, front facade, side yard, and private zone, all of which vary depending on the era. The accompanying text describes appropriate placement of the house on the lot.

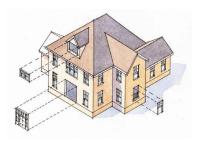
Also review the Garages & Other Ancillary Structures section (C-26 and C-27) which explains how to locate your garage and ancillary structures on your lot

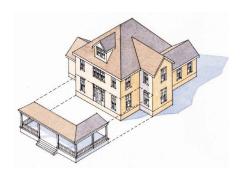
STEP 5: Review the Architectural Style Sections

Six architectural styles found in Norfolk are documented in the Pattern Book: Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, European Romantic, Arts & Crafts, Victorian, and Coastal Cottage.









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